

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SIG-01 MCT-01 DHA-02

AID-05 CCO-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01

A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FBO-02 SCS-03

OCL-00 MMO-01 /103 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RPOST/MPH

APPROVED BY P - MR. HABIB

AF:WESCHAUFLELE

S/S:SSTEINER

S - MR. SPIEGEL

-----240116Z 099002 /70

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

COMIDEASTFOR IMMEDIATE

CINCLANT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

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SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT DECISION TO CLOSE DOWN

OFFICIAL US ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA

1. THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT (EPMG) HAS INFORMED EMBASSY
ADDIS ABABA THAT ALL ACTIVITIES OF USMAAG, USIS, KAGNEW
STATION, AMCONGEN ASMARA, AND NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT

(NAMRU), IN ETHIOPIA MUST BE TERMINATED AS OF 4:00 P.M. ADDIS TIME APRIL 23 AND THAT THE REPATRIATION OF ALL AMCITS INVOLVED IN THOSE ACTIVITIES MUST BE COMPLETED FOUR DAYS THEREAFTER. WE HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR EMBASSY TO SEEK AN EXTENSION OF THE TIME LIMIT, ALTHOUGH AT LAST REPORT EMBASSY ADDIS ABABA HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN MAKING CONTACT WITH EPMG. SPECIAL BROADCAST ON ADDIS ABABA RADIO EVENING APRIL 23 ANNOUNCED THESE DECISIONS IN CONTEXT GENERAL STATEMENT CITING "IMPERIALIST" NATIONS WORKING AGAINST BEST INTERESTS OF ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION, MAKING REFERENCE TO CHILE, AND TERMING NAMRU, USIS, MAAG AND KAGNEW AS "COVER-UPS" FOR "OTHER ACTIVITIES."

2. THE EPMG HAS NOT CITED IN NOTES ANY REASON FOR TERMINATING THESE ACTIVITIES. THERE IS OF

COURSE NO TRUTH TO THE RADIO CHARGES THAT THE ENTITIES CONCERNED WERE ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AGAINST THE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION: NAMRU WAS ENGAGED IN MEDICAL RESEARCH OF BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA, USIS IN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES PREVIOUSLY DEEMED BY BOTH THE US AND ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENTS TO BE OF MUTUAL BENEFIT TO OUR TWO PEOPLES, MAAG WAS ENGAGED IN PROVIDING ADVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ETHIOPIAN MILITARY, KAGNEW WAS PROVIDING BACK-UP NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS TOTALLY UNCONNECTED WITH ETHIOPIA, AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL IN ASMARA WAS ENGAGED IN NORMAL CONSULAR FUNCTIONS.

3. WE DEEPLY REGRET THAT THE EPMG HAS TAKEN SUCH DRASTIC
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STEPS TO REDUCE OUR ACTIVITIES. IT IS, OF COURSE, COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT OUR RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA HAVE DETERIORATED IN RECENT YEARS DESPITE OUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN THEM. THE IMMEDIATE PRETEXT MOTIVATING THE EPMG TO THESE DECISIONS MAY HAVE BEEN OUR RECENT NOTE TO EPMG THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A WORLDWIDE REDUCTION OF OUR MAAG STAFFS REQUIRED BY CONGRESS, WE PLANNED TO REDUCE OUR MAAG IN ETHIOPIA BY ABOUT HALF. WE ALSO INFORMED THE EPMG LAST WEEK THAT TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS HAD MADE IT UNNECESSARY FOR US TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE KAGNEW STATION AND WE HAD ACCORDINGLY REQUESTED THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE COMMENCED LEADING TO AN ORDERLY WITHDRAWAL OF OUR PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT FROM THAT FACILITY IN ADVANCE OF THE SEPTEMBER 1977 TERMINATION DATE OF THE PRESENT CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS.

4. WE DO NOT CONTEST THE RIGHT OF THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TO TERMINATE THESE ACTIVITIES FOR WHATEVER REASON AND ARE NOT ASKING THAT THEY RESCIND THEIR DECISION IN

THAT RESPECT. WE DO FEEL, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS UNREASON-
ABLE FOR THIS TO BE ACCOMPLISHED IN FOUR DAYS.

5. WE WILL ALSO STRESS TO THE EPMG THE NEED TO GUARANTEE
THE SAFETY,BOTH OF THOSE AMCITS AFFECTED BY THEIR DECI-
SIONS AND OTHER AMCITS RESIDENT IN ETHIOPIA,WHICH COULD BE
ENDANGERED BY STAMPEDE EFFECT OF OVERLY HASTY DEPARTURE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: RPOST/MPH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2711465
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT DECISION TO CLOSE DOWN OFFICIAL US ACTIVITIES IN ETHIOPIA
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, PDIP, ET, US
To: AF POSTS LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dee316a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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